

**MINUTES OF THE
AUBURN CITY HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION
MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2008**

The regular session of the Auburn City Historic Design Review Commission was called to order on August 5, 2008 at 6:01 p.m. by Chairman Smith in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Spokely, Worthington, Young, Briggs, Elder, Chrm. Smith

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kidd, Nardini-Hanson

STAFF PRESENT: Wilfred Wong, Community Development Director; Reg Murray, Senior Planner; Joseph Scarbrough, Assistant Planner Intern; Sue Fraizer, Administrative Assistant

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

ITEM II: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

Comm. Spokely arrived at the meeting.

ITEM IV: PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM V: PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

- A. Historic Design Review - 1155 High Street (Courthouse Property Management) - File HDR 08-23.** The applicant requests approval for the installation of one 6 square foot wall sign for Courthouse Property Management located at 1155 High Street.

Planner Scarbrough presented the staff report. He provided details about the proposed sign as outlined in the staff report. It is staff's opinion that the improvements, materials and colors are of high quality and are consistent with the Historical Preservation Architectural

Design Guidelines. Staff recommends approval of the signage. It has come to staff's attention that there is a sign in violation on the premises that staff will follow up on.

Comm. Worthington asked if there is a second business occupying the same address.

Planner Scarbrough said he believes there are at least two businesses at this building.

The public hearing was opened.

The applicant, Ed Koons of 1155 High Street in Auburn showed the Commissioners the sign he is proposing. He explained that the green on the sign matches the trim on the building and the cream color matches the stucco color.

Comm. Briggs asked why the phone number is on the sign. She said she feels it looks like a real estate sign.

Mr. Koons explained that he would like for people to know how to contact him.

Comm. Worthington agreed that it looks like a real estate sign and gives the impression that the building is for sale. In addition, since there is more than one business at the building, it is somewhat confusing.

Mr. Koons explained why he has two businesses at this building.

Comm. Worthington asked Mr. Koons if he had considered modifying the existing free standing sign by adding a line for the new business.

Mr. Koons replied that he did not considered that.

Comm. Elder asked how long ago the trees were removed.

Mr. Koons replied that he moved in the building in 1997. No trees were removed at that time.

Comm. Elder asked if the building is handicap accessible from the rear of the building.

Mr. Koons replied that it is.

There were no comments from the audience. The public hearing was closed.

Comm. Elder **MOVED** to:

Adopt HDRC Resolution No. 08-27 as presented, approving one 6 square foot wall sign as illustrated in Exhibit B.

Comm. Spokely **SECONDED**.

AYES: Spokely, Worthington, Young, Elder, Chrm. Smith
NOES: Briggs
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kidd, Nardini-Hanson

The motion was approved.

B. Historic Design Review - 301 Commercial Street (Native Sons of the Golden West) - File HDR 08-24. The applicant requests approval for the replacement of a railing with a new railing which contains signage on the rear of the Native Sons of the Golden West building located at 301 Commercial Street.

Planner Scarbrough presented the staff report. He explained that the name "Native Sons of the Golden West Auburn 59" will be inlaid into the wrought iron fence. The letters will be approximately 8" in height and will span a distance of approximately 20 feet and will be painted gold. The applicant will be required to obtain a building permit for the new fence. Staff believes the new railing is a significant improvement over the existing pipe railing and is supportive of the applicant's request as approved and conditioned.

Comm. Elder asked if the condition for the sign states that the entire sign will be centered within the fence.

Planner Scarbrough replied yes, the condition states that the entire sign is to be centered.

The public hearing was opened.

The applicant, Phillip Bearry of 145 Marina Avenue in Auburn explained the history of the building and described the proposed new railing.

Comm. Worthington asked why they chose not to use the same font as is used on the sign on the front of the building.

Mr. Bearry replied that they had to purchase the letters separately, and this is the closest font they could find.

Comm. Worthington asked if the letters will be affixed to the railing.

Mr. Bearry replied that the fence and the sign will be built by a member who is a blacksmith and the letters will be affixed to the fence.

There were no comments from the audience. The public hearing was closed.

Comm. Worthington **MOVED** to:

Adopt HDRC Resolution No. 08-29 as presented, approving the replacement of the rear railing as illustrated in Exhibits B - D.

Comm. Briggs **SECONDED**.

AYES: Spokely, Worthington, Young, Briggs, Elder, Chrm. Smith
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kidd, Nardini-Hanson

The motion was approved.

C. **Historic Design Review - 905 Lincoln Way (Polished) - File HDR 08-25.** The applicant requests approval for the installation of one 8.5 square foot wall sign, one 7.85 square foot wall sign and one 1.2 square foot window sign for Polished located at 905 Lincoln Way.

Comm. Briggs excused herself from this item and left the meeting due to its location within 500 feet of her business.

Planner Scarbrough presented the staff report. He provided the details about the signs, including size, colors, shapes and location. In review of the existing signage on the building, it is staff's opinion that the proposed sign on the northeast facing wall be designed with individual channel letters consistent with the Citizen's Bank signage. Condition of Approval No. 3 requires the applicant to revise the northeast facing sign to contain individual channel letters, subject to Community Development Director approval. Staff received a letter of support for approval of the signage as submitted. As conditioned, staff recommends approval of the Polished signage.

Comm. Worthington asked if there is adequate parking for this business.

Director Wong replied that the parking standards remain the same for this type of use.

Comm. Spokely asked if the applicant accepts the conditions.

Planner Scarbrough replied that he believes they do not agree.

The public hearing was opened.

The applicants, Cheri Williams of 347 Riverview Drive in Auburn, and Cinnamon Smith of 2855 Oliver Lane in Meadow Vista stated that their opposition to staff's recommendation is due to the cost of a backlit sign. The color of the sign is intended to blend into the building so it will look like a raised letter sign. They would agree to eliminate the outline at the edge of the sign. When considering their sign design, they chose a font similar to the Citizen's Bank sign.

Comm. Young asked if the applicants looked into the cost of a backlit sign.

Ms. Williams replied that they did not, however they understand that Citizen's Bank paid over \$7,000.00 for their sign.

Comm. Young asked why they need two signs for their establishment.

Ms. Williams replied that it is so that they have visibility from both sides of the building.

Comm. Worthington asked if they considered using the oval shaped sign over the windows rather than a rectangular sign.

Ms. Williams replied that they felt the rectangular shape in that location is a better fit than the oval shape would be.

Comm. Spokely stated that he understands that a backlit sign would be cost prohibitive for a small business.

Bill Prior of #1 Eclipse Mine Way in Auburn is the owner of the building. He stated that he called Citizen's Bank to inquire about the cost of their sign and was told that it was \$10,000.00. The applicants do not have the budget for this expense. He requested that the Commission approve the signs as submitted.

Comm. Worthington **MOVED** to:

Adopt Resolution No. 08-30 approving one 8.5 square foot wall sign, one 7.85 square foot wall sign and one 1.2 square window sign for Polished located at 905 Lincoln Way as modified that the applicant shall submit a revised sign plan for the northeast facade that shall have the dark colored border that surrounds the rectangular shape removed, and the field color shall match the exterior wall.

Comm. Spokely **SECONDED**.

AYES: Spokely, Worthington, Young, Elder, Chrm. Smith
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Briggs
ABSENT: Kidd, Nardini-Hanson

The motion was approved.

Comm. Briggs returned to the meeting.

D. Historic Design Review - 132 Borland Avenue (MV Automotive) - File HDR 08-26. The applicant requests approval of one 21 square foot business sign for MV Automotive located at 132 Borland Avenue.

Planner Scarbrough presented the staff report. He provided the details of the sign. Staff recommends approval of the sign as proposed.

Comm. Worthington asked for verification that this address is in the Historic District.

Planner Scarbrough replied that this side of the street is in the Historic District. The other side of the street is outside the Historic District.

The public hearing was opened. There were no comments from the audience. The public hearing was closed.

Comm. Spokely **MOVED** to:

Adopt HDRC Resolution No. 08-28 as presented, approving one business sign as illustrated in Exhibit B.

Comm. Worthington **SECONDED**.

AYES: Spokely, Worthington, Young, Elder, Chrm. Smith
NOES: Briggs
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kidd, Nardini-Hanson

The motion was approved.

ITEM VI: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

A. City Council Meetings

Director Wong advised that the Council has given Community Development Department staff a directive to create an Ordinance Amendment for how noticing for projects is done. Work on the Historic Color Palette will follow.

B. Future Historic Design Review Commission Meetings

There will be a meeting on August 19, 2008.

C. Reports

None.

ITEM VII: HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION REPORTS

None.

ITEM VIII: FUTURE HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ITEM IX: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fraizer, Administrative Assistant